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PATENT

DATE DEPOSE

(54) Process for Preparing 4-Amino-1-Hydroxybutylidene-1,1-Bisphosphonic Acid Monosodium Salt Trihydrate

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ABSTRACT

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A process for the preparation of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or salts thereof, including 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate, comprises:

(a) reacting 4-aminobutyric acid with a mixture of phosphorous acid and  $\text{PCl}_3$  in the presence of methanesulfonic acid; and

(b) recovering said 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or a salt thereof; the invention also provides 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate useful in the treatment or prevention of diseases involving bone resorption.

This invention relates to an improved process for making 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or salts thereof, where the end product is obtained in particularly pure form and at high yields in a one-pot procedure. The invention also relates to 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate.

It is known according to U.S. Patent 4,407,761 to prepare 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid by reacting an aminocarboxylic acid with a phosphonating reactant and then hydrolyzing the reaction mixture by addition of concentrated hydrochloric acid with heating. Problems result from this reaction whereby it does not remain homogeneous and local solidification occurs. This solidification causes variable yields, which in part results from the exothermic nature of the reaction with development of hot spots. Moreover, to make the sodium salt utilizing the prior art processes requires isolation of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphonic acid and an additional step to convert to the monosodium salt.

The present invention solves these problems by allowing the reaction to remain fluid and homogeneous making commercial manufacturing possible, reducing the number of process steps and providing a large improvement in isolated yield of from about 45-50% to about 85-90%.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a process for the preparation of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or salts thereof which comprises:

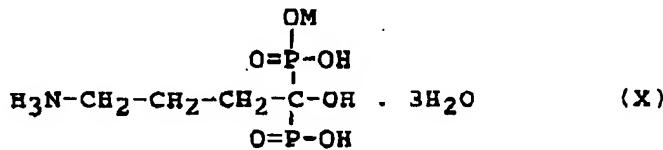
(a) reacting 4-aminobutyric acid with a mixture of phosphorous acid and  $PCl_3$  in the presence of methanesulfonic acid; and

(b) recovering said 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or salts thereof.

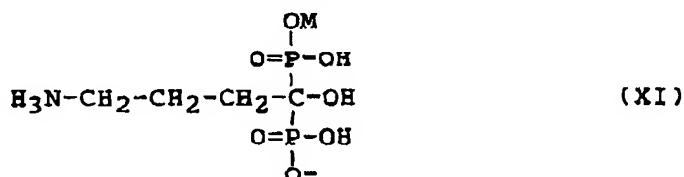
In another aspect the invention provides 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-disphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate and pharmaceutical compositions containing an acceptable, effective amount of such monosodium salt trihydrate and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

In other aspects the invention relates to the use of the monosodium salt trihydrate for the treatment or prevention of bone resorption diseases.

In another aspect of the invention there is provided a process for the formation of a compound of formula (X):



which comprises treating a compound of formula (XI):



with a base of MOH, at a temperature of 20-25°C and adjusting the pH to a pH of about 4.3 and then recovering the product of formula (X); wherein M is selected from Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup>.

The reaction can be conducted, if desired, in the presence of an inert organic diluent which does not solubilize the reaction product and at a temperature of from about 45°C to 125°C, although this is not necessary when methanesulfonic acid is used.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

It has been found that pure crystallize 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or salts thereof can surprisingly be obtained in high yields when using the procedure of the invention. The invention involves the reaction of an aminoalkane carboxylic acid with phosphonating reactants in the presence of methanesulfonic acid and recovering 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or salts thereof. The compound is crystallized directly from the reaction mixture in about 90% yield after quenching, hydrolysis, and pH adjustment to about 4.3 with no further purification necessary.

The aminoalkane carboxylic acid which can be used is 4-aminobutyric acid. The phosphorylation reaction generally takes place at temperatures of from 45° to 125°C., preferably at about 65°C.

Preferably 1 to 2, particularly 1.5 moles of  $H_3PO_3$  and 1 to 2.5, particularly 2.4 mols of  $PCl_3$  are used per mol of aminocarboxylic acid. If desired, insert organic diluents, which do not solubilize the reaction product, particularly hexane or chlorinated hydrocarbons, such as chlorobenzene, tetrachloroethane, tetrachloroethylene and trichloroethylene can be used in the reaction. It is not necessary to use a diluent when methanesulfonic acid is used in the reaction.

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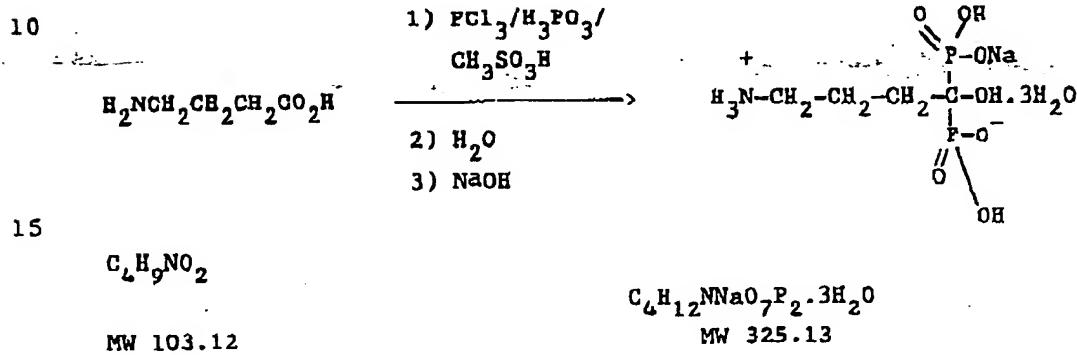
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In general, the hydrolysis is completed after about 3 hours boiling under reflux, as is shown by the chromatographic test of the reaction solution.

5 The reaction is schematically represented as follows:



20 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate described here is useful as a pharmaceutical composition and for the treatment or prevention of diseases involving bone resorption. Such diseases as hypercalcemia of

25 malignancy, Paget's disease, and osteoporosis are advantageously treated with 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate made according to the process of the present invention.

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Other pharmaceutically acceptable salts,  
such as for example the calcium, potassium salts,  
can be prepared according to the processes of the  
5 present invention and are included within the scope  
thereof.

The following examples are illustrative of the  
practice of the invention without being limiting in  
any way.

10

EXAMPLE 1

Preparation of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate

A 250 mL flask was fitted with a mechanical  
15 stirrer, a thermcouple, an addition funnel and a  
reflux condenser through which is circulated -20°C  
brine. The system was connected to a caustic  
scrubber which places a back pressure of 7-10 psi on  
the system. The system was flushed with nitrogen and  
20 charged with 20 g (0.19 mol) of aminobutyric acid, 80  
mL of methanesulfonic acid, and 24 g (0.29 mol) of  
phosphorous acid. For larger scale operations, the  
methanesulfonic acid can be charged first, followed  
by the 4-aminobutyric acid and phosphorus acid. Upon  
25 mixing, the heat of neutralization and solution  
increased the reaction temperature to 75°C. The  
suspension was aged for 15 minutes at 70-75°C  
resulting in a clear colorless solution. The  
solution was cooled to 35°C and phosphorus  
30 trichloride (PCl<sub>3</sub>). 40 mL (0.46 mol) was added  
cautiously over 20 minutes. The reaction was then  
heated to 65°C and aged at that temperature for 20

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hours. The reaction should not be allowed to get much above 65°C. The reaction becomes self-heating above 85°C and under adiabatic conditions the 5 temperature will increase steadily. At about 150 degrees an exotherm accompanied by a large pressure release occurs. It is therefore recommended that the reaction be immediately quenched into cold water if the temperature reaches 85°C. The reaction was then 10 cooled to 25°C and added to 200 mL of deionized water over 5 minutes. The flask was rinsed with an additional 100 mL of water and the combined solution aged at 95-100°C for 5 hours. The reaction was 15 cooled to 20°C and maintained at 20-25°C while the pH was adjusted to 4.3 with ca. 80 mL of 50% NaOH. The resulting white suspension was then cooled to 0-5°C and aged for 1 hour. The pH was readjusted to 4.3 if necessary and the suspension aged at 0-5°C for an additional 2 hours. The product was collected by 20 filtration, then washed with 2 x 50 mL of cold (0-5°C) water and 100 mL of 95% EtOH. The yield after air drying at 40°C to constant weight was 56.4 g (90%).

25 EXAMPLE 2

Analysis of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate

The reaction product of Example 1 was 30 analysed with the results as follows:

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	<u>Tests</u>	<u>Results</u>	
	color,form,appearance	fine white free flowing crystalline powder	
5	Particle size	10-100 $\mu$ , average <50	
	Melting point	inserted at 245, starts to melt at 257, decomposes at 262.5	
	Assay (NaOH titration)	99.7%	
10	Assay (complexometric titration)	99.9%	
	HPLC	99.5%	
	Karl Fisher	16.6% (theory 16.6%)	
15	Loss on drying	16.7%	
	GC-residual ethanol	<0.01%	
	TLC for other acids	<0.01% (not detected)	
	Heavy metals	<20 ppm	
	pH of 0.5% H <sub>2</sub> O solution	4.36	
20	IR	conforms	
	X-ray	conforms	
	Flame test for Na	conforms	
	Microchemical analysis		
25		<u>Theory</u>	<u>Found</u>
	Carbon	14.77	14.67
	Hydrogen	5.54	5.58
	Nitrogen	4.31	4.22
	Sodium*	7.08	7.00
30	Phosphorous	19.08	19.00
	Residual chloride		<0.05

\*Determined by AA.

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EXAMPLE 3

Preparation of

5 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid

To isolate the bisphosphonic acid, the pH was adjusted to 1.8 rather than 4.32 as follows: The reaction was cooled to 20 degrees C and maintained at 10 20-25 degrees C while the pH was adjusted to 1.0 with about 80 mL of 50% NaOH. The resulting white suspension was then cooled to 0-5 degrees C and aged for 1 hour. The pH was adjusted to 1.8 and the suspension aged at 0-5 degrees C for an additional 2 15 hours. The product was collected by filtration and washed with 100 mL of 20 degrees C deionized water, then air dried at 40 degrees C yielding 44.0 g (86% yield) of white crystalline product.

20

EXAMPLE 4

Analysis of

4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid

25

The reaction product of Example 3 was analysed with the results as follows:

30

TestsResults

Color, form, appearance

Clean, crystalline, white  
powder

5

NaOH titration

99.5%

Complexometric titration

99.8%

Loss on drying

6.79% (theory 6.74)

pH of 0.5% solution

2.15%

10

Microchemical analysis

 $C_4H_{13}NO_7P_2 \cdot H_2O$ Theory      Found

Carbon      17.97      17.84

15

Hydrogen      5.62      5.55

Nitrogen      5.24      5.16

Sodium\*      --      .05\*

Phosphorous      23.21      23.02

20

\*By atomic absorption spectroscopy. The other  
elements are determined by combustion analysis.

25

The preceding specific embodiments are  
illustrative of the practice of the invention. It is  
to be understood, however, that other expedients  
known to those skilled in the art or disclosed  
herein, may be employed without departing from the  
spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended  
claims.

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The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A process for the preparation of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or a salt thereof which comprises:

(a) reacting 4-aminobutyric acid with a mixture of phosphorous acid and  $\text{PCl}_3$  in the presence of methanesulfonic acid to produce 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid; and

(b) recovering said 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid or a salt thereof.

2. The process of Claim 1 wherein said reacting in (a) is conducted at a temperature of from 45°C to 125°C.

3. The process of Claim 2 wherein said reacting in (a) is conducted at a temperature of about 65°C.

4. The process of Claim 1, 2 or 3 in which step (b) comprises converting the 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid to the corresponding monosodium salt trihydrate and recovering the 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate.

5. The process of Claim 4 wherein said acid is reacted with sodium hydroxide to produce said monosodium salt trihydrate.

6. The process of Claim 5 wherein said acid is reacted with said sodium hydroxide at a pH of about 4.3.

7. The process of Claim 6 in which the acid and sodium hydroxide are reacted at a temperature of 20 to 25°C.

8. The process of Claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid is recovered.

9. 4-Amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate.

10. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prevention of diseases involving bone resorption comprising a pharmacologically acceptable, effective amount of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. An osteoporosis pharmaceutical composition comprising an osteoporosically effective amount of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. Use of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate for the treatment or prevention of diseases involving bone resorption.

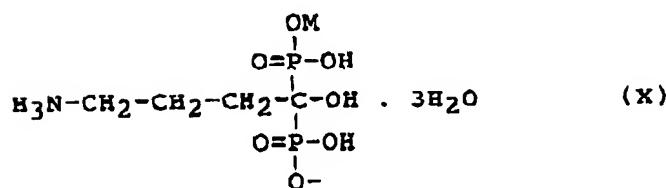
13. 4-Amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate for use in the treatment or prevention of hypercalcemia of malignancy or Paget's disease.

14. 4-Amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate for use in the treatment of osteoporosis.

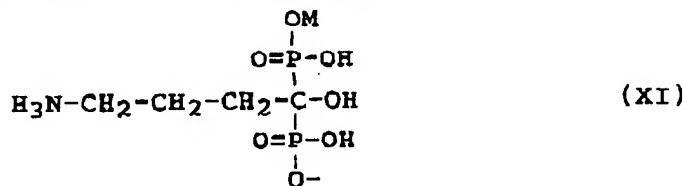
15. Use of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of diseases involving bone resorption.

16. Use of 4-amino-1-hydroxybutylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid monosodium salt trihydrate for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of osteoporosis.

17. A process for the formation of a compound of formula (X):



which comprises treating a compound of formula (XI):



with a base of MOH, at a temperature of 20-25°C and adjusting the pH to a pH of about 4.3 and then recovering the product of formula (X);

wherein M is selected from  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

18. A process of Claim 17 wherein M is  $\text{Na}^+$ .

TOTAL P.15